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Description of a Taiwanese *Phrixolepia* (Lepidoptera, Limacodidae)

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Abstract A new species of *Phrixolepia* Butler is described from Taiwan. This species has so far been misidentified as *P. sericea* Butler.

Key words Lepidoptera, Limacodidae, *Phrixolepia*, *Phrixolepia inouei* sp. n., Taiwan, taxonomy.

Phrixolepia Butler, 1877 is a small genus containing 3 species, and in Taiwan one species of the genus is distributed. It was recently illustrated by Chang (1989) as *P. sericea* Butler, 1877, but the male genitalia are completely different from those of Japanese *sericea* in my study. Inoue (1982) once stated that the Taiwan species of *Phrixolepia* was distinct from *sericea*, but in the latest checklist he (1992) treated it as *sericea*. Here I describe it as a new species.

Phrixolepia inouei sp. n.

Phrixolepia sericea: Chang, 1989: 157, figs., nec Butler, 1877.

Phrixolepia sericea: Inoue, 1992: 102, nec Butler, 1877.

♂. In appearance, hardly separable from *sericea* and *similis* Yoshimoto from Nepal. The diagnostic features in the genitalia as follows.

Valva intermediate in length between *sericea* and *similis*, with costa gently arched; sacculus large, its terminal processes long as in *similis*, the well-sclerotized inner process being setose around its tip; juxta pyriform. Aedeagus nearly as in *sericea*.

Holotype. ♂, Taiwan, Nantou Hsien, Lushan Spa (1,200 m), Aug. 24-27, 1983, H. Yoshimoto leg., in my coll.

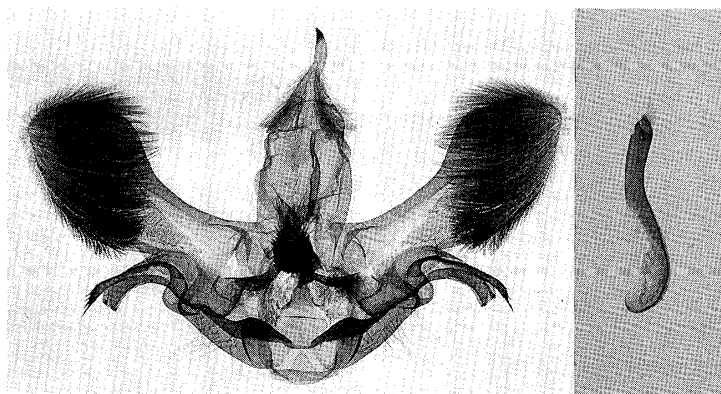


Fig. 1. Male genitalia of *Phrixolepia inouei* sp. n., holotype. Taiwan, Nantou Hsien, Lushan Spa.

P. sericea Butler was described from Japan and is also known from the Primorye region. In Japan, it is a common species from the low to middle-elevated mountains, and as its larval host plants known are the various broad-leaved trees, such as *Camellia*, *Quercus*, *Castanea*, *Acer*, *Diospyros*, *Prunus*, and so on (Hattori, 1969). In Amami-Oshima I. a close relative, *P. tenebrosa* Kawazoe & Ogata, [1963], is distributed. *P. similis* Yoshimoto, 1993 from Nepal was based on a single male and has nearly the same appearance as *sericea*. The male genitalia of *sericea* and *similis* were illustrated in my previous paper (Yoshimoto, 1993).

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摘 要

台湾産アカイラガの記載 (吉本 浩)

台湾のアカイラガは、張 (1989) により *Phrixolepia sericea* Butler, 1877 として図示され、また最近の井上 (1992) によるチェックリストでもそのように扱われているが、既に井上 (1982) が述べているように、日本から書かれた同種とは別の新種であるので、ここに *P. inouei* sp. n. として記載した。外観では日本のアカイラガとほとんど区別できないが、♂ 交尾器では *sacculus* から生じる突起の先端に刺を有することなどで区別できる。この属では、他に奄美大島から *tenebrosa* Kawazoe & Ogata (アマミアカイラガ) とネパールから *similis* Yoshimoto が知られている。なお、*sericea* および *similis* の♂ 交尾器については、Yoshimoto (1993) を参照されたい。

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